

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission Report

September 2007

USA Comments

CHAPTER 2.2.10.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

General Comment: The word “promptly” is used many times within the text of the proposed changes in this and other chapters. It is used in reference for the time frame for reporting certain events. The term needs to be defined to minimize any ambiguity. While in some countries the term “promptly” means within 24-48 hours, in other countries it may mean within a week or longer.

The term appears in Article 2.2.10.2 Point 3; Article 2.2.10.3 Point 2; Article 2.2.10.4 Point 3; Article 2.2.10.5 Point 4.

The word also appears in other Code Chapters currently for review, namely, the Code Chapter on Rinderpest, in Article 2.2.12.2 Point 3; the Code Chapter on Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, in Article 2.3.15.2 and Article 2.3.15.3.; and the Code Chapter on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in Article 2.3.13.3 and Article 2.3.13.4.

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Article 2.2.10.7.

Establishment of a containment zone within an FMD free country or zone

In the event of a limited *outbreak* within an FMD free country or *zone* with or without vaccination, a single *containment zone*, which includes all *cases* and suspect contacts can be established for the purpose of minimizing the impact on the entire country or *zone*. For this to be achieved, the *Veterinary Authority* should provide documented evidence that:

Comment/Rationale: Any *cases* or epidemiological and suspect contacts must be considered when establishing a *containment zone*.

1. the *outbreak* is limited based on the following factors:
 - a) immediately on suspicion, a rapid response including notification has been made;
 - b) standstill of animal movements has been imposed, and effective controls on the movement of other *commodities* mentioned in this chapter are in place;

- c) epidemiological investigation (trace-back, trace-forward) has been completed;
 - d) the *infection* has been confirmed;
 - e) the primary *outbreak* and likely source of the *outbreak* has been identified;
 - f) all *cases* have been shown to be epidemiologically linked;
 - g) no new *cases* have been found in the *containment zone* within a minimum of two *incubation periods* as defined in Article 2.2.10.1. from the last detected *case*.
- ~~2. surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.7. demonstrates that there are no undetected *cases* in the *containment zone*;~~
- ~~3.2. a *stamping-out policy* or another effective control strategy~~ has been applied;

Comment: The proposed change in Article 2.2.10.7, Point 2 as the phrase “or another effective control strategy” to the existing text. If such a phrase is to be included, then criteria for measuring whether or not such a control strategy is as “effective” as a stamping out policy. At a minimum, the criteria should include how the equivalency determination would be made, and by whom.